

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1 through 5 and 7 through 20 are currently pending in the application. Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 10 through 13, 16, and 18 through 20 have been amended herein. No new matter has been entered to the disclosure as the amendment clearly complies with 35 U.S.C. § 132. The amendments are made without prejudice or disclaimer. Please note that all claims currently pending and under consideration in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended and replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for saving and restoring printer control settings, comprising:  
selecting control settings for a printer using a control panel graphic user interface of said printer, said control panel graphic user interface having a capacity to access at least one additional printer;  
executing a printer control program for determining said selected control settings for said printer; and  
saving said selected control settings to ~~a media storage device~~ firmware of said printer.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
invoking a firmware update on said printer;  
updating said firmware;  
executing said printer control program for restoring said selected control settings;  
downloading said saved selected control settings from said media storage device; and  
updating said selected control settings to said printer.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
using said control panel graphic user interface for selecting at least one additional printer to transfer said saved selected control settings to; and  
updating control settings of said at least one additional printer with said saved selected control settings.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for saving and restoring printer control settings, comprising:  
executing a printer control program for creating and saving printer control settings;  
using said printer control program to select ~~at least one printer~~ a group of printers associated with said printer control program;  
retrieving available control settings for said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers;  
displaying said retrieved available control settings for selection by a user;  
selecting desired control settings from said retrieved available control settings;  
saving said selected desired control settings in a memory of at least one of said group of printers for later retrieval; and  
updating said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers with said desired control settings.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein executing a printer control program for creating and saving printer control settings comprises executing said printer control program using a computer.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein retrieving available control settings for said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers comprises retrieving said available control settings from ~~said at least one selected printer~~ one of said group of printers.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein retrieving available control settings for said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers comprises retrieving said available control settings from a database storing said available control settings.

9. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein displaying said retrieved available control settings for selection by a user comprises displaying said retrieved available control settings on a display device in a graphical user interface format.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein updating said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers with said desired control settings comprises updating control settings of said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers on a predefined schedule.

11 (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein updating said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers with said desired control settings comprises automatically updating control settings of said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers following a firmware upgrade of said ~~at least one selected printer~~ group of printers.

12. (Currently Amended) A document production system for setting and maintaining printer control settings, comprising:  
~~at least one printer~~ a group of printers for printing documents conforming to stored control settings stored in a memory of ~~said at least one printer~~ at least one of said group of printers; and  
a printer control program for retrieving control settings from said ~~at least one printer~~ group of printers, saving customized control settings in said memory of said at least one of said group of printers for later use, downloading customized control settings, and updating stored control settings in said memory of said at least one printer with said customized control settings.

13. (Currently Amended) The document production system of claim 12, wherein said printer control program is resident in said memory of said ~~at least one printer~~ group of printers.

14. (Previously Presented) The document production system of claim 12, further comprising a storage media for receiving customized control settings from said printer control program for saving.

15. (Previously Presented) The document production system of claim 12, further comprising a storage media for providing said printer control program with customized control settings to download.

16. (Currently Amended) The document production system of claim 12, wherein said printer control program further comprises a function for automatically updating stored control settings of ~~said-at least one printer~~ group of printers following firmware updates of ~~said-at least one printer~~ group of printers.

17. (Original) The document production system of claim 12, further comprising a computer for executing said printer control program.

18. (Currently Amended) The document production system of claim 17, wherein said computer comprises:

a central processing unit for executing said printer control program;

a storage media for storing said printer control program;

a display device for displaying stored control settings retrieved from ~~said-at least one printer~~ said memory of said at least one of said group of printers;

an input device for selecting desired control settings retrieved from ~~said-at least one printer~~ said memory of said at least one of said group of printers; and

a communication link for communicating with ~~said-at least one printer~~ group of printers.

19. (Currently Amended) The document production system of claim 17, wherein said printer control program further comprises a function for manipulating stored control settings of ~~said-at least one printer~~ group of printers.

20. (Currently Amended) The document production system of claim 17, wherein said printer control program further comprises a function for automatically updating stored control settings of ~~said-at least one printer~~ group of printers following firmware updates of ~~said-at least one printer~~ group of printers.